

# LASCA Leaves



Los Angeles County Department of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens

## BALDWIN BONANZA XVIII DRAWS CROWDS OF BARGAIN HUNTERS

**D**ESPITE the chill in the air, members of the California Arboretum Foundation and guests flocked to the 18th annual Baldwin Bonanza preview party plant sale at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum April 30.

More than 1,100 people enjoyed first crack at thousands of plants at bargain prices. While shoppers bustled through the sale, cocktails, soft drinks and coffee were served along with an assortment of appetizers. The delectables included sweet and sour meatballs, cheese, crackers, fruit and other irresistible snacks.

Sunday, May 1, brought the public and the winds. Strong gusts blew over the cans of Chinese fringe trees, acacias and the tabebuia trees outside the shelters. Doors into Ayres Hall were closed to keep the wind out. Regardless of the difficulties the winds brought, plant buyers continued to flow through the sale looking for the best bargains they could find.

Best sellers included the 700 yellow calla lilies which sold out by noon and the delicate but colorful fuchsias. The indoor specimens in-



Deanna Bracci

*A new father ponders his priorities.*

side Ayres Hall were also big sellers.

Chairman of Baldwin Bonanza XVIII, Tom McDuffie, said, "Although the Sunday crowd seemed smaller, people in the steady stream

of shoppers were avid plant buyers. Many were interested in establishing English gardens and seemed to purchase plants like columbines and salvias to get started."





Deanna Bracci



*TOP LEFT: A Preview Party guest uses his head to protect a prized aglonema.*

*ABOVE: Arden Keevers helps a customer.*

*BELOW: Tom McDuffie, Baldwin Bonanza XVIII chairman, looks over the selection of plants before the crowds arrive for the Preview Party.*





LuAnn B. Munns



LuAnn B. Munns



LuAnn B. Munns



*TOP LEFT: Jane Feldstein tags indoor plants.*

*LEFT: Dixie McIntee displays a planter.*

*BELOW: Preview Party guests enjoy snacks and the best plant selection.*

*TOP RIGHT: Los Angeles Times columnist Jack Smith and his wife relax after one of Mrs. Smith's now-famous plant shopping forays.*

*BOTTOM RIGHT: There is something for everyone at Baldwin Bonanza.*



Deanna Bracci





# THE ARBORETUM REACHES OUT



Joe Erby

*About 50 people attended the California Arboretum Foundation's spring seminar, "What's New in the Garden," in April. Here they look more closely at unusual accent plants described by speaker Gary Hammer (rear left).*



Greater Los Angeles Zoo

*A gorilla at the Greater Los Angeles Zoo demonstrates the pleasures of snacking on passion flower vines for her baby. Through an arrangement with the Zoo, the staff at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum collects clippings of non-toxic plants for the Zoo to add entertainment and variety in the primates' diet.*



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## Department Notes

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### ROSE MARIE HEAD LEAVES LEGACY AT THE ARBORETUM

**I**N THE BUSY years before her untimely death on April 21, Rose Marie Head set many long-range goals for herself. As she was being installed as the first woman president of the California Landscape Contractors Association in 1984, Ms. Head listed among her ambitions the desire to "... walk through a life not wasted ... to leave a remembered, worthwhile legacy so that my contributions justified my existence." The Los Angeles State and County Arboretum today has several new features because she often chose projects at the Arboretum as part of that legacy.

Ms. Head could draw upon a formidable store of energy and resources when she set out to accomplish a project. One of the few women in California to hold a landscape contractor's license, she was president of Four Seasons Gardens, a nursery, landscape construction and tree moving operation which she founded in 1973. For many years she was active in the California Landscape Contractors Association, and teamed with her husband Henry C. Soto, as the first couple to serve in the CLCA presidency.



*Rose Marie Head*



Her varied interests also took her outside the association where she was active with the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, the Horticulture Committee for Los Angeles Beautiful, Inc., and the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee.

When a steering committee met at the Arboretum to plan the first Los Angeles Garden Show in 1982, Ms. Head was vitally involved. The time and ideas she contributed in subsequent years were important in establishing the annual show as a nationally recognized gardening event.

The Stairway Garden that now links Ayres Hall and the Sunset Demonstration Home Gardens was built by the Los Angeles-San Gabriel Chapter of the California Landscape Contractors Association during Ms. Head's term as president. She and Mr. Soto helped organize the CLCA volunteers who donated much of the supplies and plants and spent thousands of hours transforming a difficult slope and eyesore into a transitional garden.

Until his death, Mr. Soto was actively planning the Water Conservation Garden with the Arboretum Director and was about a month short of breaking ground. The project then lay dormant until Ms. Head picked up the plans and spearheaded the drive to establish the Henry C. Soto Water Conservation Garden at the Arboretum. She donated the intricately shaped Brazilian pepper tree that is the centerpiece of the garden, and other members contributed plants, labor, and building materials to make the area both colorful and educational.

In recognition of the impact this remarkable couple had upon the Arboretum, a scholarship fund has been established in the names of Rose Marie Head and Henry C. Soto. For more information, call the California Arboretum Foundation Development Office at (818) 447-0184.

## SOUTH COAST VOLUNTEER ROWE PRIDEAUX HONORED

**R**OWE H. PRIDEAUX a volunteer for five years at South Coast Botanic Garden, was the Department of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens volunteer of the year for 1988. He had only been a volunteer for a few months when he became involved in the annual plant sale and fund-raiser, Fiesta de Flores.

In 1983 Mr. Prideaux coordinated more than 100 volunteers from El Camino College who helped with the Fiesta from preliminary plans through the days of the sale. The following year Mr. Prideaux assisted Rene Merlander, general chairman of the Fiesta. In this new position he organized all the activities and schedules for the volunteers.

As general chairman for the next three years, Mr. Prideaux coordinated all facets of the Fiesta de Flores. He directed 600 volunteers and worked over 4,125 hours over the three years.

One of his main objectives was to increase attendance and profits. Before the Fiesta Mr. Prideaux wrote a weekly column in *Palos Verdes News '87* and solicited support from

garden clubs, the California Association of Nurserymen Centinela Chapter, and local business and media, to name a few.

In 1984 Mr. Prideaux became a member of the Board of Trustees. In 1986 he served as fourth vice-president on the Executive Board, the second year as first vice-president. In 1986 and 1987 he was a member of the Executive Board.

Other organizational involvement included serving on the South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation Support Committee for the Palos Verdes Community Art Association's Arts for FUNds Sake in 1987.

Referring to his years as a volunteer, Mr. Prideaux feels he has gained as much as he has given. "It means a dual benefit for me. One, it affords me the opportunity to give something back to the society I have enjoyed for many years," he said. "Then secondly, I have personally benefited from wonderful associations, new friends and increased knowledge in areas of botany, gardening, and conservation, which interest me greatly."



*Rowe Prideaux (left) receives a scroll from Supervisor Deane Dana as he is honored as Volunteer of the Year for the Department of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens. His wife, Patricia, stands center.*



# ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FAIR



*More than 4,500 students, teachers and parents participated in the eighth annual Environmental Education Fair March 19 at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum. TOP LEFT: Jennifer Martin, one of several hundred Girl Scouts who attended, examines a wildlife display. TOP RIGHT: David Martinez, Nicholas Hermsen and Jamal Brown (from left) peer at one of the fossil skulls. BELOW: Youngsters learn while they play nature games. (Photos by Thomas Bros. Photography, Monrovia)*





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**The California Arboretum Foundation  
and Arcadia Chamber of Commerce**

Present their  
**ANNUAL PICNIC CONCERT**

featuring entertainment by  
**LOUISE MANDRELL**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 1988  
PICNIC 6:00 P.M. CONCERT 8:00 P.M. DONATION \$15.00

Los Angeles State and County Arboretum, Arcadia, CA

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER

**SOUTH COAST BOTANIC  
GARDEN, Palos Verdes Peninsula**

**JULY 3 — 2 p.m.**

"Hybridizing Roses" talk  
Southern California Rose  
Hybridizers Association

**JULY 10 — 2 p.m.**

"Growing African Violets"  
demonstration

South Coast African Violet Society

**JULY 17 — 2 p.m.**

"How to Grow and Use Herbs" talk  
South Bay Herb Society

**JULY 24 — 2 p.m.**

"Summer in the Garden" slide show  
Jean Jacyna

**JULY 31 — 2 p.m.**

"Growing Gourmet Mushrooms"  
demonstration

Los Angeles Mycological Society

**AUGUST 6-7 — Sat. noon to 4:30 p.m.**

Sun. 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Bromeliad Show

South Bay Bromeliad Associates

**AUGUST 20-21 — Sat. noon to 5 p.m.**

Sun. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Dahlia Show

South Coast Dahlia Society

**DESCANSO GARDENS,  
La Canada Flintridge**

**JULY 1 to 28 — 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

Artist of the Month  
Women's Painters West

**JULY 10, 17, 24 & 31 — 2:30 p.m.**

Performing Arts Program Under the  
Oaks

Descanso Gardens Guild

**JULY 29 to AUGUST 25 —**

9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Artist of the Month

Jackie Carty

**August 7, 14, & 28 — 2:30 p.m.**

Performing Arts Program Under the  
Oaks

Descanso Gardens Guild

**AUGUST 26 to SEPTEMBER 22 —**

9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Artist of the Month

Diane Bensler

**LOS ANGELES STATE AND  
COUNTY ARBORETUM, Arcadia**

**JULY 1-3 — 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

Cactus and Succulent Show  
Cactus and Succulent Society of  
America

**JULY 30-31 — Sat. 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.**

Sun. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Begonia Show

San Gabriel Valley Begonia Society

**AUGUST 6-14 — 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

Art Show  
Mid Valley Art League

**AUGUST 20-21 — 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

Cactus and Succulent Show  
Cactus and succulent societies  
Los Angeles, Long Beach and  
San Gabriel Valley

**AUGUST 30 — 8 p.m.**

Summer Picnic Concert  
California Arboretum Foundation

**SEPTEMBER 3-5 — 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

Fern Show  
Los Angeles International Fern Society

**SEPTEMBER 24-25 — 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

Bonsai Show  
Akebono Bonsai Society

**OCTOBER 14-23 — 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.**

LOS ANGELES GARDEN SHOW